

January 31, 2013

**Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.**

**Detroit Free Press: Michigan ACLU, unions ask Ingham County court to strike down right-to-work law**

"The ACLU of Michigan and a coalition of labor unions today asked an Ingham County court to strike down the state's new right-to-work law because of alleged violations of the Open Meetings Act, the First Amendment, and the state constitution.... Gov. Rick Snyder has asked the Michigan Supreme Court to rule directly on the constitutionality of the law, rather than wait for cases to wind through the lower courts."

*Full story*

**Also see:**

**The Detroit News: ACLU, labor groups sue to block Michigan right-to-work law**

*Full story*

**Lansing State Journal: Unions ask judge to strike down right-to-work law**

*Full story*

**MLive.com: ACLU, unions asks judge to strike down Michigan right-to-work law due to Capitol lockdown**

*Full story*

**The State News/East Lansing: Snyder asks for court review of right-to-work**

*Full story*

**Detroit Free Press: Gun charges against ex-House Speaker Craig DeRoche dropped**

"People can't be charged with a crime simply for possessing a firearm while intoxicated inside their home, the Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled in a case arising from an incident involving former state House Speaker Craig DeRoche."

*Full story*

**Note: The article also ran in the Daily Press & Argus and the Lansing State Journal.**

**Also see:**

**Hometown Life Newspapers: Gun charges against ex-House Speaker Craig DeRoche of Novi dropped**

*Full story*

**Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Drunk and near a gun, Michigan court says that's OK**

*Full story*

**SBM Blog: Former Michigan Speaker Prevails At Court Of Appeals in "Drunk Near Gun" Case**

*Full story*

**Detroit Free Press: Court says patients can share marijuana**

"Medical marijuana supporters received a key victory Wednesday -- and the Michigan Attorney General's Office suffered a setback -- when the state Court of Appeals unanimously ruled that patient-to-patient transfers of the drug are allowed for medical use under state law."

*Full story*

**Also see:**

## **The MiLW Blog: Patient transfer of pot is legal**

*Full story*

## **The Daily Tribune: Appeals court: No crime in sharing medical marijuana**

*Full story*

**Note:** The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Lansing State Journal, the Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor, the Macomb Daily, the Oakland Press and the Times Herald/Port Huron.

## **WKAR News/East Lansing: Appeals Court: It's OK To Share Small Amounts of Medical Pot**

*Full story*

## **The Detroit News: Court revives ousted Inkster judge's suit against city, state officials**

"An ousted Inkster judge can sue state and municipal officials over her removal from office, a federal appeals court ruled Wednesday. The U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that former 22nd District Court judge Sylvia James can proceed with her lawsuit against the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission and various officials involved in her ouster last year."

*Full story*

## **Detroit Free Press: Federal judge: 350 juvenile lifers in Michigan have chance at parole**

"[U.S. District Judge John Corbett O'Meara] ruled Wednesday that Michigan's laws sending juveniles convicted of murder to prison for life are unconstitutional and ordered that the more than 350 juvenile lifers in the state have a chance at parole.... The Michigan Court of Appeals said the decision did not apply retroactively. O'Meara disagreed."

*Full story*

### **Also see:**

## **Detroit Free Press: Ruling gives Michigan inmate hope that her 2 decades behind bars could be coming to an end**

*Full story*

## **The Detroit News: Juveniles with life sentences in Michigan have shot at release**

*Full story*

## **Associated Press: Judge opens door for Michigan juvenile lifers**

*Full story*

**Note:** The article also ran in the Daily Tribune, the Lansing State Journal, the Macomb Daily, the Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor, the Midland Daily News, the Oakland Press and the WKAR News/East Lansing.

## **Detroit Free Press: Detroit father can still see kids he has with woman accused of stabbing 8-year-old daughter, court rules**

"The father of three of Semeria Greene's children will be allowed to continue supervised visitation this week, despite a request from an attorney representing the Department of Human Services who asked for his visitation to be suspended."

*Full story*

## **The Detroit News: Ex-Highland Park emergency manager faces embezzlement trial**

"The embezzlement trial of Highland Park's former emergency manager is scheduled to start May 6. Arthur Blackwell II is accused of misappropriating \$264,000 from the city from 2005-09."

*Full story*

### **The Allegan County News: Court upholds 2010 Saugatuck Township millage vote**

"A disputed Saugatuck Township vote raising funds to fight dunes owner Aubrey McClendon's lawsuits was upheld by the Michigan Appeals Court Jan. 15.... Voters in May 2010 passed a two-year, 0.5-mill tax hike to defend township land-use laws, essentially against claims filed by McClendon, who wants to develop 310 acres of dunes he owns---by a 491-489 count."

*Full story*

### **C & G Newspapers/Warren: Shelby, Macomb boards to vote on courthouse agreement**

"The financial differences that have kept the residents of Shelby Township, Utica and Macomb Township from having a new 41-A District Court have apparently been bridged. Both Macomb and Shelby officials are expected to vote within a month on the latest version of an interlocal courthouse agreement between the two communities."

*Full story*

### **Hometown Life Newspapers: 35th court exec moves to new jurisdiction**

"... [Debra] Kubitskey, a 35th District Court employee for nearly 20 years and the court administrator for eight, is taking that professionalism to Livingston County, where she is the new administrator in 53rd District Court."

*Full story*

### **Jackson County Legal News: Beware jury duty phone scams, State Court Administrator warns**

"It may sound official--and intimidating: you receive a phone call or e-mail claiming to be from a local court and telling you that you missed jury duty. There is a bench warrant out for your arrest and you face 30 days in jail, but the so-called 'court' offers you a way out: pay \$500 by credit card."

*Full story*

***Also see:***

### **Beware jury duty scam phone calls, e-mails, State Court Administrator warns**

*Press release*

### **The Macomb Daily: Warren lawmaker proposes ending judges' mandatory retirement**

"... State Sen. Steve Bieda, D-Warren, co-sponsored a bill that was approved 4-0 by the Judiciary Committee on Tuesday and will be considered by the full Senate. It asks voters to amend the constitution to remove the age 70 mandatory retirement."

*Full story*

***Also see:***

### **Detroit Legal News: Mich. Senate panel OKs removing judge age limit**

*Full story*

**Note: The article also ran in Oakland County Legal News.**

### **The MiLW Blog: MCFN, LWV back judicial selection, campaign finance reforms**

"The Michigan Campaign Finance Network and the League of Women Voters are jointly backing reforms to how the state selects judges and open disclosure of who is financing who in Michigan Supreme Court

elections, according to the Daily Tribune. The two groups will hold a joint forum at Oakland University on March 11, and plan other forums in Ann Arbor, northwest Wayne County, and Lansing."

*Full story*

### **Muskegon Chronicle: Rezoning proponents asking Muskegon County judge for permission to enter Sappi lawsuit to defend Nov. 6 vote**

"Leading proponents of the Sappi zone change on last November's ballot are asking a Muskegon County judge to allow them to intervene in a lawsuit by property owner Melching Inc."

*Full story*

### **Oakland County Legal News: Circuit court introduced**

"The Oakland County Bar Association New Lawyers Basic Skills Seminar Series 'Introduction to Practice' continued with a look at the topic of 'Circuit Court' on Thursday, Jan. 17, at the Oakland County Bar Center."

*Full story*

### **The Oakland Press: Teenage girl recalls frightening experience with alleged drunken driver**

"Judge Richard Caretti's teenage daughter says she was 'scared for my life' due to the 'beyond dangerous' driving by her father's companion, who was arrested minutes later for drunken driving."

*Full story*

### **Saginaw News: Conviction upheld: Grandma Angela Blackwell allowed sex-for-cocaine swap of granddaughters**

"Angela A. Blackwell, who allowed a 67-year-old man to sexually assault her granddaughters in exchange for cocaine, will not receive a new trial. The Michigan Court of Appeals on Tuesday, Jan. 29, denied Blackwell's appeal, upholding her convictions for six sexual assault offenses and two other felonies."

*Full story*

### **Traverse City Record-Eagle: Editorial: Give Hathaway the maximum**

"She has never offered a rationale, and her lawyer on Tuesday said her actions were 'dumb' and 'made no sense.' No kidding."

[\*Full story\*](#)

***Also see:***

### **Oakland County Legal News: Ex-justice pleads guilty to bank fraud**

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: With Hathaway now a felon, Gov. Snyder mulls her replacement**

[\*Full story\*](#)